THE RIFLE

The Commission then called Cortlandt Cunningham, 2 H(p.251) a special agent of the FBI in the firearms identification unit. He said he could assemble and disassemble the rifle without a screwdriver by using something like a dime. Asked how long this would take, he said he had never been timed using a dime but with a screwdriver, about 2 minutes. They timed him with a dime and it took 6 minutes. Cunningham said, "I think I can improve on that." Senator Cooper asked, "Does the bolt work all right now?" and Cunningham replied, "Once in a while with regard to the top portion - namely the retaining screw and the top stock - you have trouble getting them engaged on this particular model. That is the case on this weapon. On that one over there, however, it slid right on when I put it together a little while ago; it was much faster." The model used was "the assassination weapon". That was all of Cunningham's testimony, 1 page.

THE RIFLE - Continued

At the beginning of this hearing the other agent referred to was Charles L. Killion. In Vol. VII on p.591, the Commission prints a very brief affidavit he had executed on July 31, 1964, in which he says, "I have reviewed the testimonies of Rpbert A. Frazier on March 31 and May 13, 1964, and testimonies of Cortlandt Cunningham on March 11 and April 1, 1964, ... and I agree with the conclusions stated therein.

"I do hereby state that I conducted independent examinations of the items which were the subject of Mr. Cunningham's and Mr. Frazier's testimonies and that on the basis of these independent examinations, I reached the same conclusions reached by Mr. Frazier and Mr. Cunningham."

On the same date Cunningham executed an affidavit printed on the same page in which he says he "conducted independent examinations of the items which were the subject of Mr. Frazier's testimonies and that on the basis of these independent examinations, I reached the same conclusions reached by Mr. Frazier."

On the same day Robert A. Frazier executed an affidavit appearing on p.590 in which he said, "I have reviewed the testimonies of Cortlandt Cunningham on March 11 and April 1, 1964, ... and I agree with the conclusions stated therein.

"I do hereby state that I conducted independent examinations of the items which were the subject of Mr. Cunningham's testimonies and that on the basis of these independent examinations, I reached the same conclusions reached by Mr. Cunningham."

Cunningham appears also in Vol. III beginning on p.451 and Frazier in Vol. III beginning on p.390 and Vol. V, beginning on p.58. I have not yet read these statements. In this connection I also in-

tend to examine the testimony of FBI fingerprint expert Latona in Vol.IV beginning on p.1. Perhaps here I will find the account of the destruction of the original bag.